

Summer 7-18-1957

Roberta

Little Theatre on the Square

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Summer of Musicals

Grand Theatre

Sullivan, Illinois



MAUREEN REIDY in ROBERTA

July 18 – 21

Who's Who . . .

MAUREEN REIDY (Stephanie) whom audiences enjoyed as Fiona and as the delightfully flighty Eileen in *Wonderful Town* has been kept busy for the past few years by numerous club dates and radio and television commitments including *Easter Parade*, *Hands Across the Sea*, *Ireland's Heritage*, and the *Nancy Craig Show*. In spite of this heavy schedule, Miss Reidy has still found time for a number of concert engagements and off-Broadway productions. The latest of these was *Latin in Manhattan* in which she played the lead and in *Dakota*. Other recent legitimate stage appearances have been in *Pirate's Bride* and Purcells' opera, *Dido and Aeneas*. As a singer Miss Reidy toured New York State and Connecticut with a group called The Emerald Eight. Before coming to Sullivan she completed a three-month engagement at the club Polka Dot in New York.

JAYSON STEINBECK (John Kent) as Frank Lippencott, the drug store manager, was a major source of much of the humor in *Wonderful Town*. A native Californian, Mr. Steinbeck studied with Gilmore Brown at the Pasadena Playhouse and appeared on the West Coast in a wide variety of shows including *The Moon Is Blue*, *Camille*, *Miss Mabel*, *Othello*, *Lost Horizon*, *Family Reunion* and *Blood Wedding*. Concerts and solo spots with various symphonies have also absorbed a great portion of his time in the past few years.

GREG BARRY (Huckleberry Haines) who kept Grand audiences in stitches with his interpretations of the blase Jeff in *Brigadoon* and The Wreck in *Wonderful Town* is a Hollywood import. Beginning his career in show business as a dance band musician, he quickly gravitated to the theatre via an interest in Shakespearean drama. His first important acting job was in a Southern California touring company of Thornton Wilder's *Our Town*. This tour was a direct route into motion pictures for Mr. Barry. Soon after, he made a number of films, notably *The Bridges at Toko-Ri*, *Brigadoon*, and *The Body Is a Shell*, currently playing in New York in which he has his first starring role in a motion picture. He has been seen in roles on such TV shows as *Dragnet*, *Space Patrol*, *The Alcoa Hour*, and *Frontiers of Faith*.

ROBERT GWALTNEY (Lord Henry Delves), the flamboyant Mr. Appopolous of *Wonderful Town*, has appeared in numerous stock companies in the East including the Seaciff Summer Theatre in New York and the Parkway Playhouse in Burnsville, N. C. Among the many plays in which he has done a wide variety of roles are *Madwoman of Chailot*, *Finian's Rainbow*, *Hamlet*, *As You Like It*, *Light Up the Sky*,

and *Brigadoon*. His last theatre appearances before coming to Sullivan were in *Burlesque* with Bert Lahr and *Witness for the Prosecution* with Albert Dekker and Margaret Phillips at the fabulous Coconut Grove Playhouse in Miami.

CLAIRE KINCADE (Luella Lavern) who was last seen as Maggie in *Brigadoon* but whose presence is always felt through her wonderful choreography again steps before the footlights this week. Miss Kincade has had a brilliant background in the theatre. Having studied with George Balanchine of the New York City Center Ballet and Anna Sokolow, Miss Kincade was lead dancer with the Amato Opera Theatre in New York and guest artist with the Terre Haute symphony for which she did original choreography to Bach and Ravel. As an actress and dancer, she has appeared with numerous theatres in the East in such plays as *Dark of the Moon*, *Camino Real*, *Kiss Me Kate*, *The Women*, *Romeo and Juliet*, *The Chocolate Soldier*, and *Life With Father*.

ENID TOWNE (Sophie Teale), a graduate of the American Academy of Dramatic Art, has appeared previously on the Grand stage as Jane Ashton in *Brigadoon* and as Helen Wade in *Wonderful Town*. For a short time Miss Towne was a model in New York City after which she turned her attention to radio and appeared on ABC's *My True Story*. She next went to the Barter Theatre where she did roles in *Seven Year Itch*, *Bus Stop*, *Dark of the Moon* and *The Tempest*. Miss Towne then made her way to the West Coast where she appeared in two movies, *A Face in the Crowd* and the soon to be released *A Hatful of Rain*.

INIS LITTLE (Aunt Minnie), a former Sullivan high school English and drama teacher is no theatre novice having directed a number of plays herself. Mrs. Little is the mother of the producer and appeared as Mrs. Wade in last week's production, *Wonderful Town*.

JOEL MUNCH (Billie), a Sullivan resident for the past ten years and a very talented performer, has appeared in featured roles in all the Grand productions to date. Currently, Mr. Munch is a student at DePauw university where he has been active in debating and participated in the varsity show, *Sue Us*.

(More on Page Four)

GUY S. LITTLE, JR., *presents* **ROBERTA**

ADAPTED FROM ALICE DUER MILLER'S STORY

Music by
Jerome Kern

Staged by
Jerili Little

Settings by
Burt Krancer

Musical Director
Dick Moll

Book and Lyrics by
Otto Harbach

Choreography and Musical Numbers by
Claire Kincade

Costumes by
Linda North

Additional Gowns by
Van Law's and Carol's of Decatur

C A S T

Babe Face	Betty Chambers
"Gin" Blossom, The Freshman	Jerry Taflinger
Billie	Joel Munch
Huckleberry Haines	Greg Barry
Sophie Teale, The Debutant	Enid Towne
Mrs. Teale, Her Mother	Laura Mae McLaughlin
John Kent, The Fullback	Jayson Steinbeck
Aunt Minnie, Trade Name, Roberta	Inis Little
Ladislav, The Doorman	Gene Noland
Stephanie, The Assistant to Roberta	Maureen Reidy
Lord Henry Delves, Friend to Roberta	Robert Gwaltney
Mme. Nunez Scharwenka, The Star Customer	Jerili Little
Marie, The Stylist	Marjorie Steinbrinck
Mme. Anna Grandet	Myra Brent
Sidonie, The Presser	Linda North
Luella Lavern, The Model	Claire Kincade

DANCERS:—Barbara Butler, Betty Chambers, Karla Fleck, Jerry Taflinger.

CHORUS: Dick Stevens, Eddie McCarty, Roseann Pasalacqua, Jan Munch, Marjorie Steinbrinck, Carolyn Fleming, Jean Hudson, Judy Rowe, Pamela Best, Alberta Roelig, John Shuman, Polly Crawford.

Who's Who . . .

LINDA NORTH (Sidonie) has appeared in both *Brigadoon* and *Wonderful Town* at the Grand. Her most recent work before coming to Sullivan was in the opera cast of *Abduction from Seraglio* in the Mozart Festival in Stratford, Connecticut. Miss North, who hails from Philadelphia has made numerous concert appearances there as well as in New York. She is currently a scholarship student at the famous Juilliard School of Music. In addition to her acting and singing roles, Miss North is serving as costumer at the Grand this season.

JERRY TAFLINGER ("Gin" Blossom) is a brilliant young dancer from Danville. Having started dancing at a very early age, he has appeared in both the Crystal Room and the Grand Ball Room at the Palmer House in Chicago and at the Hotel Roosevelt in St. Louis. In addition to these and other club dates he has found time for numerous recital and television appearances. Mr. Taflinger will appear in the Nutcracker Suite in Terre Haute in November. Audiences at the Grand will remember his excellent dancing in both the Conga and at the Village Vortex in last week's *Wonderful Town*.

BETTY CHAMBERS (Babe Face) studied last summer with the National Association of Dancers and Affiliated Artists in New York. Even before this, already a skilled dancer, she appeared in *Sweethearts* and was choreographer for the Campus Review at Indiana State Teachers College where she is a sophomore. Previous appearances here have been as a dancer in *Brigadoon* and *Wonderful Town*.

MARJORIE STEINBRINCK (Marie), in addition to handling the large job of property mistress on all productions has been doing double duty before the footlights. While a student at Carthage College she appeared in such productions as *Carousel*, *Brigadoon*, and *Time of Your Life*. In the summer theatre at South Bend, Indiana, audiences saw her in *Robin Hood* and in *Naughty Marietta*. A teacher by profession, Miss Steinbrinck has proved herself a talented thespian as well.

JERILI LITTLE (Director, Scharwenka) who garnered her share of laughs from *Brigadoon* audiences with her delightful characterization of the promiscuous Meg Brookie, in addition to playing a role, steps in to the Director spot for *Roberta*. She has a wide background as both an actress and singer. Summer stock theatres throughout the country have claimed Miss Lit-

tle's time and talent for a number of seasons. She has appeared with both the Fourth Street Theatre in New York City and the Miami Opera Guild in their production of *Madam Butterfly*. Miss Little has graced television screens and radio microphones on numerous occasions in both Miami and Chicago. After her appearance in *My Three Angels* in Miami, she won the leading role in Christopher Frye's *The Lady's Not for Burning* which earned her rave notices from Miami critics. At the University of Illinois she appeared in *Roberta* opposite Peter Palmer, the young star of the current Broadway hit, *Lil' Abner*.

GUY S. LITTLE, JR. (Producer), who handled excellently the direction of both *Brigadoon* and *Wonderful Town*, with the opening of the Grand Theatre realized one of his greatest ambitions, that of operating his own professional musical theatre. Upon graduation from the University of Miami, Mr. Little continued his training at the American Theatre Wing in New York. He has appeared in legitimate shows, musical comedy, and grand opera with numerous stock companies throughout the country including the Gateway Musical Playhouse and the Keene Summer Theatre in Keene, N. H. With the Miami Opera Guild he sang roles in such operas as *Il Trovatore*, *Madam Butterfly*, *La Boheme* and *Così fan Tutte* in which he appeared with distinguished stars from the Metropolitan Opera Company. At the end of the season in Sullivan Mr. Little returns to New York for commitments there

(More on Page Six)

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SCENES OF THE PLAY

ACT I

- Scene 1. Frat House at Haverhill College.
- Scene 2. Roberta's Private Office in Paris.
- Scene 3. The Fitting Room.
- Scene 4. The Show Room at Roberta's.

ACT II

- Scene 1. Roberta's Private Office.
- Scene 2. An American Bar.
- Scene 3. Show Room at Roberta's.
- Scene 4. Wardrobe Room at Roberta's.
- Scene 5. Cafe Russe.

THERE WILL BE A TEN MINUTE INTERMISSION BETWEEN ACTS I AND II

STAFF OF THE THEATRE

Stage Manager -----Myra Brent
Property-----Marjorie Steinbrinck, Pam Best, Roseann Passalacqua
Organist -----Mrs. LaRue Hamm
Business Manager -----Robert Gwaltney
Box Office -----Mataleen Taflinger

Who's Who . . .

DICK MOLL (Musical Director), an excellent musician and choral director, received a full scholarship to the University of Miami School of Music while still only a junior in high school. While there Mr. Moll became quite proficient on a number of musical instruments and conducted the University Symphony Orchestra in concerts on occasions. After graduation, he journeyed to New York where he worked several months be-

fore joining forces with Mr. Little at the Grand Theatre. Long time friends, these two worked very closely in casting and selecting shows for this season. Mr. Moll is responsible in a large measure for the fine choral work in *Brigadoon* and *Wonderful Town* and will be directing the chorus and musical numbers for the rest of the season at the Grand.

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"Song of Norway"	Aug. 1-4
"Call Me Madam"	Aug. 8-11
"Wish You Were Here"	Aug. 15-18
"Finian's Rainbow"	Aug. 22-25
"Guys and Dolls"	Aug. 29-Sept. 1

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MUSICAL SYNOPSIS

ACT I

- | | |
|--|------------------------|
| 1. Let's Begin | Billie |
| Tap Dance by Babe Face and "Gin" Blossom | |
| 2. Madrigal | Boys |
| 3. You're Devastating | Huck |
| 4. Yesterdays | Aunt Minnie |
| 5. Something Had to Happen | Scharwenka |
| 6. You're Devastating | Stephanie |
| 7. The Touch of Your Hand | Ladislav and Stephanie |
| 8. Fashion Show | Models |
| 9. I'll Be Hard to Handle | Scharwenka |
| 10. Yesterday's Dance | Luella and Dancers |
| 11. Finale (Act I) | Company |

ACT II

- | | |
|-----------------------------------|--------------------|
| 1. Opening | Company |
| 2. Hot Spot | Scharwenka |
| 3. Smoke Gets in Your Eyes | Stephanie |
| 4. Let's Begin | Huck and Stephanie |
| 5. Something Had to Happen | John |
| 6. Don't Ask Me Not to Sing | Huck |
| 7. Finale Ultimo | Entire Company |

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